

**Meeting Notes**

Present:

Laura Niemi  
Mary Embleton  
Steve Bauck  
Branden Born  
SuJ'n Chon

Kelly Horton  
Erin MacDougall  
Tammy Morales  
Jen Lamson  
Pablo Monsivais

Absent:

Linda Nageotte

Guests:

Phyllis Shulman, legislative aide to Seattle City Council President Richard Conlin  
Matt Maria, student UW Extension Environmental Law and Regulation  
Laura McCarty, community member  
Tim Bernthal, CTED  
Tiana Colovos, community member  
Lindsey Donnelly, community member  
Leslie Heimer, volunteer Seattle Youth Garden Works  
Stephanie Wells, student

**Exploring other Regional FPC Models**

Phyllis reported that Seattle City Council President Richard Conlin met with the director of the Puget Sound Regional Council to explore that entity as a possible home for the food policy council. The meeting was positive and a follow up meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>. The AFPC executive committee will present information as part of the discussion with the PSRC and other regional leaders.

**Local Food Action Initiative Update**

Seattle City Council priorities from the initiative will include urban food-growing issues and a focus on hunger. There is a need to identify city-owned acres that could be used as community gardens and some funding (\$2 million from the parks levy) to do some of this work.

There is some coordinated work happening between the King County Extension, Cascade Harvest Coalition and others to address the capacity of farmers markets. The Farmers Market Conference of the Washington State Farmers Market Alliance will be held Jan 30-31 at the Puyallup Fair Grounds.

There was discussion about approaching Department of Neighborhoods director, Stella Chao, to learn more about the progress on the Food Action Plan identified in the Local Food Action Initiative. SuJ'n indicated that the department has been working on the strategic plan for the P-Patch program and will be starting the Food Action Plan work soon.

Funding has been made available from Local Food Action Initiative to continue part time AFPC staff through April and to create a transition plan for the Acting Food Policy Council.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- **Contact Stella Chao ASAP to get update on LFAI activities – Tammy and Laura**

## **Retreat Planning**

There was discussion about the two proposals submitted for the facilitation of the strategic planning retreat. Members agreed that the proposal from Pyramid merited acceptance despite the higher cost. There was a decision to use part of the LFAI funds and to raise the balance among the membership. Mary Embleton moved to accept the Pyramid proposal assuming we raise the funds. Laura Niemi seconded and the motion passed.

### **ACTION Item:**

- **Tammy will confirm acceptance to Pyramid and schedule an initial planning meeting.**
- **SuJ'n Chon and Pablo Monsivais agreed to serve on a planning committee for the retreat**
- **The retreat is scheduled for Friday, February 27th, 9 – 3, Center for Urban Horticulture**

## **AFPC Membership Changes**

There was discussion about adding new members to our council to get some different perspectives. We discussed whether to follow the current process of recruiting from particular sectors or having an open call for new members.

There was discussion about whether recruitment should happen after the retreat when priorities are identified and targeted recruitment could take place or whether to recruit now so new members could participate in the planning.

It was agreed that several people should be invited to participate in the retreat, then we could target recruitment once priorities are identified. A short list was generated of guests to invite to the retreat including: Trudy Bialic, Rosalinda Guillen, Mike Price at City of Kirkland, someone from retailing/distribution, someone representing the issue of urban gardeners on church land, Heather Day, Siri-Erikson, someone from the agriculture commission.

Branden Born moved we extend the Acting Food Policy Council until June 30; Mary Embleton seconded. The motion passed. Kelly Horton announced that she would be leaving the AFPC after March.

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

- **Members should contact Tammy about changes in membership**
- **Tammy to circulate list of potential guests to retreat**
- **Tammy to confirm and invite guests to retreat**

## **Other Updates**

There was some discussion about staff request for assistance on web site content. Several members indicated they have students who might be able to offer time and assistance.

The King County Agriculture Program is hosting a series of public hearings on the future of agriculture study they are conducting. Steve Evans has invited the AFPC to attend and to participate in the public testimony. Kelly Horton will attend the February 12<sup>th</sup> hearing.

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

- **Tammy to contact: Branden for student help for website news clippings; Pablo to help with research of food consumption**
- **Mary to provide some background on what we should support for Ag. Hearings**
- **Tammy to follow up with Steve Evans or Karen Kinney – how can we help?**
- **Need to follow up on OUTREACH – discussion for next executive committee**

### **Guest Updates/Announcements**

Matt Maria a student in Environmental Law at the UW Extension program

These law students would like to be advised on issues related to food policy. They are looking for a client whom they can provide with some resource documents related to the intersection of food and environmental regulations. The product is due in May. They would like to meet soon to develop the scope of project – likely looking at the link b/w zoning and food planning. More information is available at

[www.groups.google.com/group/urban-garden-consulting](http://www.groups.google.com/group/urban-garden-consulting)

Laura Niemi, SuJ'n Chon, Erin MacDougall, and Branden Born all indicated that they would connect with Matt on the project.